

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Attorney Docket Q62781

11. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, in which the dispersion compensation element comprises a length of dispersion compensating optical fibre.

A3  
12. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, further comprising an optical coupler arranged to feed an optical signal received at an optical input to an optical path having a dispersion compensation element, the dispersion compensation element being adapted to apply dispersion compensation to a number of channels within a limited bandwidth and reflect signals within that bandwidth to an optical output of the optical coupler.

14. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, in which the dispersion compensation element is a diffraction grating.

A4  
15. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, in which the dispersion compensation element is a photoreflective element.

16. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, in which the dispersion compensation device further comprises an optical reflector coupled to the dispersion compensating element to reflect optical signals outside of the predetermined bandwidth to the optical output of the optical coupler.

17. (Amended) A device according to claim 9, further comprising a delay element to provide inter-band dispersion compensation.

A5  
19. (Amended) A dispersion compensation device according to claim 9 comprising a housing having at least one spool of dispersion compensation fibre arranged axially within the housing so as to provide a passage extending along a length of the housing through the core of the spool.